

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 24, 2003

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2003–04 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 522**

**Introduced by Assembly Member Diaz**

February 18, 2003

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An act to add Section 1227 to the Government Code, relating to Matriculas Consular.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 522, as amended, Diaz. ~~Public~~ *Local* officers and employees: identity of individuals.

Existing law provides for the issuance of driver's licenses and identification cards by the Department of Motor Vehicles, as specified.

This bill would require every ~~public~~ *city, county, and city and county* officer or employee to accept for purposes of personal identification an identification card issued by the Mexican Consulate Office, to the extent permitted by federal law, the same as a driver's license or identification card issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles, or Matricula Consular, except when possession of a valid driver's license is required by law. The bill would also set forth the findings and declarations of the Legislature in this regard.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the  
2 following:

1 (a) Mexican Consular identification cards, or Matriculas  
2 Consular, are state-of-the-art and contain various security  
3 safeguards designed to prevent falsification.

4 (b) Various large metropolitan *and small* cities and counties,  
5 including the City of Los Angeles, the County of Los Angeles, the  
6 City and County of San Francisco, the City of Oakland, *the City*  
7 *of Watsonville, the City of Oxnard, the City of South Lake Tahoe,*  
8 *the City of Sutter Creek,* the County of Santa Clara, *the County of*  
9 *Ventura, the County of Sacramento,* and the County of Santa Cruz,  
10 currently accept the Matricula Consular as an official  
11 identification card.

12 (c) Various financial institutions, such as Wells Fargo Bank,  
13 Bank of America, California Credit Union, and California Union  
14 Bank, accept the Matricula Consular as well; and since November  
15 2001, Mexican immigrants have opened new bank accounts and  
16 deposited over fifty million dollars (\$50,000,000) in banks  
17 throughout California.

18 SEC. 2. Section 1227 is added to the Government Code, to  
19 read:

20 1227. To the extent permitted by federal law, every ~~public~~ city,  
21 county, and city and county officer or employee shall accept for  
22 purposes of personal identification an identification card issued by  
23 the Mexican Consulate Office, or Matricula Consular, as  
24 equivalent to a driver's license or identification card issued by the  
25 Department of Motor Vehicles, except when possession of a valid  
26 driver's license is required by law.

